

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

ACDA-19 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 RSR-01 /117 W

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R 161802Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6299

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 10087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, BU, HU

SUBJECT: FRG RELATIONS WITH BULGARIA AND HUNGARY

REF: SOFIA 822

SUMMARY: FONOFF EXPECTS THAT WORKING-LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE BULGARIANS AND HUNGARIANS THIS MONTH AND NEXT WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE TWO COUNTRIES AROUND THE TIME OF CHANCELLOR BRANDT'S TRIP TO PRAGUE FOR THE SIGNING OF THE FRG-CSSR TREATY (SEPTEMBER 6-7). THERE IS A CHANCE, HOWEVER, THAT PROBLEMS COULD ARISE, PARTICULARLY OVER BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

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1. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EASTERN EUROPEAN DIVISION IN

FONOFF, ARNOT, TELLS US THAT HEAD OF WESTERN EUROPEAN DIVISION IN BULGARIAN FONOFF WILL COME TO BONN FOR NEGOTIATIONS JULY 30-31. HUNGARIANS WILL SEND DEPFONMIN NAGY AROUND MIDDLE OF AUGUST, PROBABLY BETWEEN 10TH AND 15TH. FRG COUNTERPART IN BOTH CASES WILL MOST LIKELY BE POLITICAL DIRECTOR VAN WELL.

2. A VARIETY OF ISSUES MUST BE DEALT WITH. SOME OF THEM, E.G. DISPOSITION OF EXISTING TRADE OFFICES, ARE OF A PRACTICAL NATURE AND NOT LIKELY TO CREATE DIFFICULTIES. QUESTION OF CONSULATES COULD BE SOMEWHAT HARDER. FONOFF EXPECTS MAIN PROBLEM WILL BE BERLIN, SINCE FRG IS DETERMINED TO OBTAIN SOME FORMAL ASSURANCE (AS WAS DONE RECENTLY IN A CONFIDENTIAL EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN THE FRG AND ROMANIA) THAT FRG WILL PROVIDE CONSULAR REPRESENTATION FOR BERLIN (WEST). MOREOVER, FRG WANTS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS RIGHT OF CONSULAR REPRESENTATION IS NOT LIMITED TO INDIVIDUAL CITIZENS, BUT WILL EXTEND TO BERLIN (WEST) AS AN ENTITY. (ARNOT NOTED THAT THIS LATTER POINT COULD BE ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT BECAUSE IT GOES BEYOND THE TERMS OF THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT.)

3. ACCORDING TO ARNOT, BULGARIANS HAVE HINTED THAT THEY MIGHT BE ASKING FOR WARTIME COMPENSATION PAYMENTS OF SOME KIND FROM THE FRG. ANY DEMANDS OF THIS KIND, IF SERIOUSLY POSED, WOULD OBVIOUSLY DELAY ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS, SINCE FRG ENTIRELY UNWILLING TO ENTERTAIN THEM. FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT, IT APPEARS MOST LIKELY THAT BULGARIANS MIGHT MAKE A TOKEN EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION BUT THAT, RECOGNISING THE FIRMNESS OF THE FRG'S POSITION, WOULD NOT PERMIT IT TO BECOME A SERIOUS OBSTACLE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS. ARNOT SAID HE HAD SO FAR NOT HEARD OF ANY HUNGARIAN CLAIMS BUT WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THEY AROSE.

4. SEVERAL OF OUR CONTACTS HAVE COMMENTED ON RATHER SURPRISING SELF-RESTRAINT BEING EXERCISED BY HUNGARIANS NOW THAT PACT RESTRAINT NO LONGER IN EFFECT. IN HELSINKI MEETINGS BETWEEN SCHEEL AND THE TWO FOREIGN
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MINISTERS, MLADENOV WAS EFFUSIVE AND OBVIOUSLY EAGER TO MOVE AHEAD RAPIDLY, AS SHOWN BY INVITATION TO SCHEEL TO VISIT SOFIA, WHILE PETER REMAINED QUITE NON-COMMITTAL. ARNOT SAID THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY, IF TALKS WENT WELL, THAT SCHEEL MIGHT TRAVEL TO SOFIA EVEN BEFORE BRANDT'S VISIT TO PRAGUE ON SEPTEMBER 6-7 FOR SIGNATURE OF THE FRG-CSSR TREATY. IT REMAINS UNCERTAIN WHEN AND WHETHER HE MIGHT GO TO BUDAPEST.

HILLENBRAND

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